

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for subcutaneous injection of an injectable product comprising:

an injection device comprising a container holder, a container and a needle, the container and the needle being connected to the container holder;

an inner sleeve and an outer sleeve connected to a proximal portion of the container, the inner sleeve and the outer sleeve being generally concentric;

a needle protection sleeve shiftable in a shifting direction along a length of travel from a proximal position extending beyond the needle to a distal position where it is positioned generally between the inner sleeve and the outer sleeve; and

an indicator which indicates to the user of the apparatus, during insertion of the needle, that the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position, the indicator comprising a circuit, the circuit being positionable between an open position and a closed position, one of the closed position or the open position indicating that the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position.

29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the circuit further includes a switch comprising first and second switching elements.

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the circuit is in the open position when the switch is in an open position, the switch being in an open position when the needle protection sleeve is not in the distal position, and wherein the circuit is in the closed position when the switch is in a closed position, the switch being in a closed position when the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position.

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the first switching element is a permanent magnet.
32. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the second switching element is a tab of electrically conductive material.
33. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 29, further including a mounting structure, wherein the second switching element is arranged on the mounting structure and the mounting structure extends in the shifting direction of the needle protection sleeve.
34. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 33, wherein the first switching element is provided on an outer shell surface area of the needle protection sleeve.
35. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the second switching element extends opposite the first switching element in the shifting direction of the needle protection sleeve.
36. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the first switching element and the second switching element form a Hall generator.
37. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the circuit further comprises a luminous element.
38. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the circuit further includes a switch comprising first and second switching elements.
39. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the circuit is in the open position when the switch is in an open position, the switch being in an open position when the needle protection sleeve is not in the distal position, and wherein the circuit is in the closed position when the switch is in a closed position, the switch being in a closed position when the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position, and wherein the luminous element is off when the

switch is in the open position and the luminous element is on when the switch is in the closed position.

40. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 38, wherein the circuit is in the open position when the switch is in an open position, the switch being in an open position when the needle protection sleeve is not in the distal position, and wherein the circuit is in the closed position when the switch is in a closed position, the switch being in a closed position when the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position, and wherein the luminous element is off when the switch is in the closed position and the luminous element is on when the switch is in the open position.

41. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the luminous element is a light emitting diode and wherein, in the closed position, the circuit causes the light emitting diode to illuminate.

42. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the luminous element is a light emitting diode and wherein, in the open position, the circuit causes the light emitting diode to illuminate.

43. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37, wherein the luminous element is lit when the circuit is in the closed position.

44. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 37, further including a second circuit and wherein the luminous element is two-colored.

45. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 44, wherein the first circuit is in the open position when the second circuit is in a closed position and wherein the first circuit is in the closed position when the second circuit is an open position, the luminous element being one color when the first circuit is in the closed position and being a second color when the second circuit is in the closed position.

46. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for subcutaneous injection of an injectable product comprising:

an injection device comprising a container holder, a container and a needle connected to the container holder;

an inner sleeve and an outer sleeve connected to a proximal portion of the container, the inner sleeve and the outer sleeve being generally concentric;

a needle protection sleeve shiftable in a shifting direction along a length of travel from a proximal position extending beyond the needle to a distal position where it is positioned generally between the inner sleeve and the outer sleeve; and

an electric circuit including a switch comprising a first switching element carried by the needle protection sleeve and a second switching element positioned generally opposite the first switching element and extending along the shifting direction of the needle protection sleeve; wherein the electric circuit forms an indicator which indicates to the user of the apparatus, during insertion of the needle, that the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position.

47. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the circuit is opened when the switch is in an open position, the switch being in an open position when the needle protection sleeve is not in the distal position, and wherein the circuit is closed when the switch is in a closed position, the switch being in a closed position when the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position.

48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position when it has been moved from its proximal position to an extent that the needle extends from the needle protection sleeve sufficiently to attain a desired pricking depth for an injection.

49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the circuit further includes a luminous element.

50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 49, wherein the circuit is opened when the switch is in an open position, the switch being in an open position when the needle protection

sleeve is not in the distal position, and wherein the circuit is closed when the switch is in a closed position, the switch being in a closed position when the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position, and wherein the luminous element is off when the switch is in the open position and the luminous element is on when the switch is in the closed position.

51. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 49, wherein the circuit is opened when the switch is in an open position, the switch being in an open position when the needle protection sleeve is not in the distal position, and wherein the circuit is closed when the switch is in a closed position, the switch being in a closed position when the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position, and wherein the luminous element is off when the switch is in the closed position and the luminous element is on when the switch is in the open position.

52. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 49, wherein the luminous element is a light emitting diode.

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 46, wherein the luminous element is a two-color element, the luminous element illuminating to indicate the position of the needle protection sleeve, a first color of the two-color element indicating that the needle protection sleeve is in the distal position and a second color of the two-color element indicating that the needle protection sleeve is not in the distal position.

54. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the circuit comprises two electric circuits, one for each color, which are open or closed alternatively and depending on the position of the needle protection sleeve.

55 - 75. (Canceled)